## LBHI CELEBRATES ITS 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY By Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige, LACDMH Public Information Officer



The Latino Behavioral Health Institute (LBHI) celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary at this year's annual conference entitled *Advancing Latino Behavioral Health: From Margin to Mainstream.* The four-day conference lasted from September 16<sup>th</sup> through September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and was held at the LA Hotel Downtown.

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) was among the many conference partners, including the Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Public Health, National Institute of Mental Health, Pacific Clinics and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.



This year's keynote speakers were LACDMH Director Marvin Southard, D.S.W.; Professor of Medicine at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine David Hayes-Bautista, Ph.D.; and Center for Substance Abuse Treatment Director H. Westley Clark, M.D., J.D., M.P.H., C.A.S., F.A.S.A.M. Licensed Clinical and Forensic Psychologist Tony Beliz, Ph.D., was the plenary speaker for the conference. Formerly with LACDMH, Dr. Beliz now works in private practice and consults on school violence and trauma event management.

The conference was well attended by hundreds of mental health professionals who travelled from all over the country. LBHI is a non-profit corporation with the mission to enhance behavioral health services to the Latino community. With more than 60 different speakers at this year's conference, they offered 36 workshops that covered health and mental health issues that affect the Latino community. The conference also held special workshops just for veterans.

